Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500 Internet: <u>www.fcc.gov</u>

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TTY: 888-835-5322

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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU AND OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY APPROVE AMDOCS'S USE OF KEY BRIDGE'S ENVIRONMENTAL SENSING CAPABILITY

GN Docket No. 15-319

- 1. By this *Public Notice*, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) and the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) approve Spectrum Access System (SAS) administrator Amdocs, Inc. (Amdocs) request to amend its SAS authorization to permit it to use Key Bridge Wireless LLC's (Key Bridge) Environmental Sensing Capability (ESC) to protect federal incumbent operations in the 3.55-3.65 GHz portion of the 3.55-3.7 GHz band (3.5 GHz band). We find that Amdocs has demonstrated effective communication and interoperation with the Key Bridge ESC and, as such, is approved to use the Key Bridge ESC to protect federal incumbent operations consistent with the Commission's rules and its SAS authorization.
- 2. On April 21, 2020, WTB and OET approved SAS administrator Amdocs for full scale commercial deployment in the 3.5 GHz band.² At that time, Amdocs did not have an ESC associated with its SAS. In the SAS Approval Public Notice, WTB and OET noted that, "[i]f Amdocs plans to make substantive changes to its system, for example, to comply with new releases of industry standards, Amdocs must supplement or amend its filings in GN Docket No. 15-319 to reflect these changes." WTB and OET also stated that ongoing compliance with the Commission's rules and policies is a condition of SAS certification and that a SAS administrator may be required to demonstrate its ability to operate with an associated ESC prior to using that ESC to authorize commercial deployments in the band.⁴
- 3. On December 9, 2020, Amdocs filed its request to provide SAS services in the 3.5 GHz band with Key Bridge as its approved ESC provider.⁵ On July 22, 2021, Amdocs filed its ESC

¹ See 47 CFR §§ 0.241(j), 0.331(f) (delegating authority to WTB/OET to oversee the SAS approval process and facilitate the testing and development of multiple SAS operators. *See* Letter from Robert Silverman, Counsel, Amdocs, Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, GN Docket No. 15-319 (filed Dec. 9, 2020) (ESC Request).

² Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Approve Spectrum Access System Administrator Amdocs for Full Scale Commercial Deployment in the 3.5 GHz Band, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 3687, 3687, para. 1 (WTB/OET 2020) (SAS Approval Public Notice).

³ SAS Approval Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd at 3690, para. 5.

⁴ SAS Approval Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd at 3689, para. 5. ("a SAS may be required to demonstrate proper interoperation with its associated ESC to demonstrate effective protection of federal incumbents from actual commercial deployments.")

⁵ See ESC Request. See also Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Announce the Approval of an Additional Environmental Sensing Capability for the 3.5 GHz Band, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 7001 (WTB/OET 2020); Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Extend the Conditional Authorization of Key Bridge's Environmental Sensing (continued....)

Interoperability Testing Report showing successful interoperation between Amdocs's SAS and Key Bridge's ESC.⁶ After review of its submission, we find that Amdocs has demonstrated that its SAS can properly interoperate with Key Bridge's ESC and that it will comply with all relevant provisions of the Commission's part 96 rules. As such, we approve Amdocs's request to amend its SAS authorization, subject to ongoing compliance with the Commission's rules and policies, to use Key Bridge as their associated ESC provider.⁷

By the Acting Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and the Acting Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology.

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Capability, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, DA 21-723 (WTB/OET Jun. 21, 2021); Wireless

Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Extend the Conditional Authorization of Key Bridge's Environmental Sensing Capability, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 14684 (WTB/OET 2020).

⁶ Letter from Robert Silverman, Counsel, Amdocs, Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, GN Docket No. 15-319 (filed July 22, 2021).

⁷ Consistent with the Commission's rules and WTB and OET's earlier instructions, ESCs may only be used in conjunction with a fully certified SAS and within geographic areas where they have approved ESC sensors. Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Establish Procedure for Registering Environmental Sensing Capability Sensors, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, 33 FCC Rcd 10016 (WTB/OET 2018). Once ESC sensor approvals are in place, ESCs may be used to detect the presence of federal incumbent radar transmissions in the 3550-3650 MHz portion of the 3.5 GHz band and to communicate that information to one or more certified SASs in accordance with the Commission's rules. See 47 CFR § 96.67.